



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2016

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **corn** production in Colorado is forecast at 154.00 million bushels, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 14 percent from last year's 134.90 million bushels. The 1.10 million acres expected to be harvested for grain this year is unchanged from the June forecast and 150,000 acres above the 950,000 acres harvested a year ago. Average yield is expected to decrease 2.0 bushels per acre from last year to 140.0 bushels per acre. As of July 31, Colorado's corn crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Corn silking was 74 percent complete, compared with 64 percent last year and the 5-year average of 63 percent.

Sorghum production in 2016 is forecast at 15.98 million bushels, down 27 percent from the 22.00 million bushels harvested a year earlier. Growers expect to harvest 340,000 acres this year, unchanged from the June forecast, but down from the 400,000 acres harvested last year. Average yield is forecast at 47.0 bushels per acre, 8.0 bushels below last year's final yield. As of July 31, the sorghum crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Sorghum headed was 42 percent complete, compared with 16 percent last year and the 5-year average of 25 percent.

Barley production is forecast at 8.09 million bushels, up 5 percent from the July 1 forecast, but down 1 percent from last year's crop. Area for harvest in 2016, at 57,000 acres, is down 6,000 acres from the 63,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at a record high 142.0 bushels per acre, up 7.0 bushels from the July 1 forecast and 12.0 bushels per acre higher than last year. As of July 31, the barley crop condition was rated 13 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 34 percent excellent. Barley harvest was 10 percent complete, compared with 9 percent last year and the 5-year average of 14 percent.

Winter wheat production is forecast at 97.52 million bushels, up 2 percent from the July 1 forecast and up 23 percent from the 79.18 million bushels produced last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 2.12 million acres, unchanged from July 1, but 20,000 acres less than the 2.14 million acres harvested in 2015. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 46.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel above the July 1 forecast and 9.0 bushels above last year's final yield. If realized, this would be a record winter wheat yield for Colorado, and 3.0 bushels above the previous record of 43.0 bushels per acre set in 2010. As of July 31, Colorado's winter wheat harvest was 95 percent complete, compared with 92 percent last year and the 5-year average of 95 percent.

Colorado farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 750,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, up 50,000 acres from 2015. They also expect to harvest 750,000 acres of **other hay** in 2016, unchanged from last year. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.85 million tons, down 1 percent from the 2.87 million tons produced in 2015. Other hay production is forecast at 1.43 million tons, unchanged from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 3.80 tons per acre for alfalfa and 1.90 tons per acre for other hay, compared to last year's yields of 4.10 tons per acre for alfalfa hay and 1.90 tons per acre for other hay.

Dry bean production for 2016 is forecast at 850,000 hundredweight, up slightly from the 846,000 hundredweight produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 2,000 pounds per acre, up from 1,820 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 42,500 acres this year, down 4,000 acres from 46,500 acres last year. **Sugarbeet** production is forecast at 952,000 tons, down 1 percent from the 958,000 tons produced in 2015. Growers expect to harvest 27,500 acres this year compared with 27,300 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 34.6 tons per acre, down from 35.1 tons per acre a year ago.

Colorado **peach** production for 2016 is forecast at 12,500 tons, up 12 percent from last year's production of 11,200 tons.

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UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 15.2 billion bushels, up 11 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 175.1 bushels per acre, up 6.7 bushels from 2015. If realized, this will be the highest yield and production on record for the United States. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 86.6 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast, but up 7 percent from 2015.

Sorghum production is forecast at 475 million bushels, down 20 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 6.46 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast but down 18 percent from 2015. Based on August 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 73.5 bushels per acre, 2.5 bushels below the record high 2015 average of 76.0 bushels per acre.

Barley production is forecast at 190 million bushels, up 4 percent from the July forecast but down 12 percent from 2015. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 73.6 bushels per acre, up 2.7 bushels from the previous forecast and up 4.7 bushels from last year. If realized, this would represent a record high yield for the United States. State-level record high barley yields are expected in Arizona and Colorado. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.58 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 17 percent from 2015.

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.66 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the July 1 forecast and up 21 percent from 2015. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 54.9 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from last month and up 12.4 bushels from last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 30.2 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 6 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 1.05 billion bushels, is up 1 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 372 million bushels, is up less than 1 percent from the July forecast. White Winter, at 237 million bushels, is up 6 percent from last month. Of the White Winter production, 21.7 million bushels are Hard White and 216 million bushels are Soft White.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2016 is forecast at 61.5 million tons, up 4 percent from 2015. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.40 tons per acre, up 0.08 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.1 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast but up 2 percent from 2015.

Production of **other hay** is forecast at 79.0 million tons, up 5 percent from 2015. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.07 tons per acre, up 0.01 ton from last year. If realized, the 2016 average yield will be a record high for the United States and production will be the third highest on record behind only 2004 and 2003. Harvested area is forecast at 38.1 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast but up 4 percent from 2015.

Production of **dry edible beans** is forecast at 29.5 million cwt, down 2 percent from last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.72 million acres, down 3 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 1.66 million acres, 3 percent below the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,781 pounds per acre, an increase of 21 pounds from last season.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2016 crop year is forecast at 36.0 million tons, up 2 percent from last year. Planted area is forecast at 1.16 million acres, up slightly from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, up slightly from 2015. Expected yield is forecast at 31.4 tons per acre, an increase of 0.5 tons from last year.

United States **peach** production is forecast at 806,600 tons, down 5 percent from 2015.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.